



FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS AND TREATMENT OF PROBLEM BEHAVIOR

BEHV 4010, Spring 2024

Credit Hours: 4

Location: Chilton 255

Days and Time: Tuesday & Thursday, 11:00 - 12:20 p.m.

Instructor: Joseph Dracobly, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA (TX) - joe.dracobly@unt.edu

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Office Hours: Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., Thursdays, 9 a.m. - 10 a.m., & By appointment

[\(mailto:joe.dracobly@unt.edu\)](mailto:joe.dracobly@unt.edu) Instructor Office: Chilton 360A and

<https://unt.zoom.us/my/joedracobly> <https://unt.zoom.us/my/joedracobly>

Teaching Assistant: Aaron Sanchez - aaron.sanchez@unt.edu [\(mailto:joe.dracobly@unt.edu\)](mailto:joe.dracobly@unt.edu)

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Chilton 360

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce students to function-based treatment approaches for problem behavior.

The topics include anecdotal assessment, descriptive assessment, experimental analysis, and various courses of treatment derived from functional assessment, with emphasis on the importance of consistency between procedures and the functional properties of problem behavior.

ESSENTIAL LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Describe operant mechanisms involved in producing and maintaining problem behavior
2. Describe ways to assess the functional properties of problem behavior
3. Describe treatments for behavior maintained by social positive reinforcement
4. Describe treatments for behavior maintained by social negative reinforcement
5. Describe treatments for behavior maintained by nonsocial mechanisms
6. Describe issues related to the functional analysis approach and the use of default treatments such as punishment

READINGS

All readings will be available on Canvas.

ATTENDANCE/MAKE-UP POLICY

Attendance is important for obtaining information from lectures, taking quizzes, and completing activities during class. Students with religious obligations, severe medical illnesses, or family problems need to contact me IN ADVANCE to discuss the situation. To contact me with such issues, send me an e-mail or talk to me in person rather than leaving a message on my office phone. Out of fairness, I can only make special arrangements and give Incompletes when students contact me beforehand. I recommend that you send me an e-mail and provide me documentation whenever you need to miss class due to legitimate reasons.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

I expect you to attend class fully prepared with appropriate materials and electronic devices silenced. When we meet in person, you can use laptops, tablets, smartphones, and other devices to take notes and view reading guides and readings related to the class, but not for other purposes.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

In-class activities will be conducted during many class meetings. They will be very helpful in learning the material and applying the material while completing your practical experience.

READING GUIDES

A reading guide will be posted on Canvas prior to each class with readings. The guide will consist of content questions, evaluation questions, and application questions. Your answers should be three to five sentences in length and IN YOUR OWN WORDS. If you directly quote something, you need to provide proper attribution, using APA 7th edition standards. Prior to the beginning of class, please submit, on Canvas, a Word document with your answers to the questions on the reading guide. You will also want to have a copy of the reading guide with you in class. You can miss TWO reading guides (or drop your LOWEST TWO scores) without affecting your grade.

QUIZZES

After about every other class with a reading and reading guide (typically Thursdays), there will be a quiz, comprised of a subset of questions from the reading guide. Quizzes will be due at the end of class.

EXAMS

There will be four exams throughout the semester. The content of the exams will be build across the semester, focused on applying what you've learned about functional assessment and treatment. There will be questions about content but the number of content questions will decrease across exams, while the questions about synthesis and application will increase.

LAB AT KFAC

As part of the course, you will have the opportunity to participate in actual functional assessments and treatments at the Kristin Farmer Autism Center (KFAC). As part of the lab component of the course, you will have the opportunity to observe sessions with clients, collect, analyze, and graph data, and conduct some types of functional assessments. To earn full points, you will need to complete 15 hr at KFAC.

RECORDINGS

As UNT community members and behavior analysts, we must be honest, trustworthy, fair, ethical and respectful of truth in all we do. Recording video and audio, streaming video and audio, or taking photographs (camera and video phones included) of students, faculty or staff without their express consent violates this value. Class recordings initiated by the instructor are the intellectual property of the university or instructor and are reserved for use only by students in this class and only for educational purposes. Students may not post or otherwise share the recordings outside the class, or outside the Canvas Learning Management System, in any form.

In order for students to record/stream video or audio, or take photos in class, they must have a documented accommodation from the Office of Disability Access (ODA). In such cases, the accommodation letter must be presented to the instructor in advance of any recording being done and all students in the course will be notified whenever recording will be taking place. If a student records, streams, or takes photographs in a class without the instructor's permission, it will be considered dishonest and will be referred to the University's conduct system as a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct or UNT's Academic Integrity Policy and could lead to disciplinary action.

If a student has an approved accommodation, recorded classes may not be used in any way that denigrates and/or decontextualizes the instructor or any student whose class remarks are recorded. Any information contained in any recorded class may not be posted, published, or quoted without the written consent of the instructor and all others in the recording. If consent is granted, the recording must be properly cited. All recordings of class lectures or discussions are to be erased at the end of the semester. Students who are permitted to record classes are not permitted to redistribute audio or video recordings of statements or comments from the course to individuals who are not students in the course. Distribution without permission is a violation of educational privacy law. (Adapted from Boston College, Elon University, and the University of Mary Washington).

AI

Any submitted work that was completed using AI (e.g., ChatGPT) is not allowed in this class. AI can be a powerful tool but that tool can interfere with your learning. In education, the learning (i.e., behavior change) we are interested in is student learning. Using AI robs you of the opportunity to learn: to do things right or wrong, solve problems, create new solutions, and the like (adapted from

Virginia Chaffee at Colorado State University).

GRADING

Item	Each	Number	Total		Grade	Points
Reading Guides	10	19	190		A	>810
Quizzes	10	10	100		B	720-809
Exams	100	4	400		C	630-719
Lab at KFAC	210	1	210		D	540-629
					F	<540

EXTRA CREDIT

Students can earn up to ten extra credits points. Students may earn credit by any of the following means, in any combination:

1. The student may volunteer to serve as a research participant in an approved study being conducted by University of North Texas Department of Behavior Analysis faculty or students. The Institutional Review Board of the University of North Texas will have approved all studies offered through the Sona System. Each 30 min of participation will earn you 1 research credit, which is worth 10 points of extra credit in this course.
2. Completing brief reviews of FA and treatment-related research. Each brief review (maximum of .5 page) will earn you 10 points of extra credit.

Note about Credits for Research Participation:

Credits for research participation are determined by the time and effort students are asked to expend, not on the particular outcome of their participation in a study. The researcher will determine the total number of credits for a study, in advance, and post the credit number on Sona for the student's information. Only credits for which the student registers online may be used for research participation credit. Credit will be assigned according to the following guidelines:

1. At least one (1) research credit will be earned for each half ($\frac{1}{2}$) hour of participation at a single session.
2. If more than one session is required, the student will earn at least one (1) research credit for each

additional session, based on the total duration of the session.

3. One (1) additional research credit can also be earned for special circumstances for any research project.
 1. Special circumstances include multisession participation, recruitment of a cohort, activities performed outside of a formal research session, etc.

I reserve the right to change the schedule as necessary. All changes will be announced.

Remote Instruction

Remote instruction may be necessary if community health conditions change or you need to self-isolate or quarantine due to COVID-19. Students will need access to a desktop, laptop, or tablet computer with a webcam and microphone to participate in fully remote portions of the class. Information on how to be successful in a remote learning environment can be found at <https://online.unt.edu/learn>.

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences

According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

ADA Accommodation Statement

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website (<https://disability.unt.edu/>).

Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum

at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT's Code of Student Conduct (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>) to learn more.

Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

Sexual Assault Prevention


UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565- 2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565 2759.

Access to Information - Eagle Connect










Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student's Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail Eagle Connect (<https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect> ➡ <https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect>).

Student Evaluation Administration Dates

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available from November 16th to December 3rd, to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an e-mail from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org (<mailto:no-reply@iasystem.org>)) with the survey link.

Students should look for the email in their UNT e-mail inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation e-mail that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (<http://spot.unt.edu/>  (<http://spot.unt.edu/>)) or e-mail spot@unt.edu (<mailto:spot@unt.edu>).

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Thu Jan 18, 2024	 KFAC Lab Application (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051995)	due by 9:30am
	 RG 1 - Skinner Chapter 2 Reading Guide (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052008)	due by 11am
Fri Jan 19, 2024	 Survey (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052032)	due by 11:59pm
Tue Jan 23, 2024	 RG 2 - Skinner Chapter 3 Reading Guide (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052019)	due by 9:30am
Thu Jan 25, 2024	 Quiz 1 (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051997)	due by 10:50am
Tue Jan 30, 2024	 RG 3 -Reading (Video) Guide (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052022)	due by 9:30am
Thu Feb 1, 2024	 KFAC Experience Sign Up Spring 2024 (https://unt.instructure.com/appointment_groups/4096)	9am to 3pm
	 RG 4 - Thompson & Iwata (2007) Reading Guide (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052023)	due by 9:30am
	 Quiz 2 (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051999)	due by 10:50am

Fri Feb 2, 2024



KFAC Experience Sign Up

Spring 2024

(https://unt.instructure.com/appointment_groups/4097)

9am to Feb 5 at 3pm

Mon Feb 5, 2024



KFAC Experience Sign Up

Spring 2024

(https://unt.instructure.com/appointment_groups/4098)

9am to 3pm

Tue Feb 6, 2024



RG 5 - Smith et al. (2012)

Reading Guide

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052024>)

due by 9:30am

Thu Feb 8, 2024



RG 6 - Dracobly et al. (2018)

Reading Guide

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052025>)

due by 9:30am



Quiz 3

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052000>)

due by 10:50am

Fri Feb 9, 2024



Quiz 3 - Create Anecdotal

Assessment

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052001>)

due by 11:59pm

Mon Feb 12, 2024



KFAC Experience Sign Up

Spring 2024

(https://unt.instructure.com/appointment_groups/4099)

9am to Feb 16 at 3pm

Thu Feb 15, 2024



Exam 1

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051980>)

due by 10:50am

Mon Feb 19, 2024



KFAC Experience Sign Up

Spring 2024

(https://unt.instructure.com/appointment_groups/4100)

9am to Feb 23 at 3pm

Tue Feb 20, 2024



RG 7 - Iwata et al. (1994) - FA

Reading Guide

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052026>)

due by 9:30am

Thu Feb 22, 2024



RG 8 - Iwata et al. (1994) -

Large n Reading Guide

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052027>)

due by 9:30am



Quiz 4

due by 10:50am

<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052002>



KFAC Experience Sign Up Spring 2024

9am to Feb 29 at 3pm

https://unt.instructure.com/appointment_groups/4101



RG 9 - Dixon et al. (2001) & Chapman et al. (1993) Reading Guide

due by 9:30am

<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052028>



RG 10 - Smith & Churchill (2002) Reading Guide

due by 9:30am

<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052010>



Quiz 5

due by 10:50am

<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052003>



RG 10 & 11 - Smith & Churchill (2002) & Fahmie & Iwata (2011) Reading Guide

due by 9:30am

<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052009>



Exam 2

due by 10:50am

<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051982>



RG 12 - Bloom et al. (2011) Reading Guide

due by 9:30am

<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052011>



RG 13 - Thomasson-Sassi et al. (2011) Reading Guide

due by 9:30am

<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052012>



Quiz 6

due by 10:50am

<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052004>



RG 14 - Carr & Durand (1985) Reading Guide

due by 9:30am


<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052013>



Quiz 7


(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052006>) by 10:50am

Tue Apr 2, 2024

 **RG 15 - Tiger et al. (2008)**
Reading Guide
(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052014>)

due by 9:30am

Thu Apr 4, 2024

 **RG 16 - Piazza et al. (1998)**
Reading Guide
(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052015>)


due by 9:30am

 **Quiz 8**

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052006>)

due by 10:50am

Tue Apr 9, 2024

 **RG 17 - Hanley et al. (2005)**
Reading Guide
(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052016>)

due by 9:30am


Thu Apr 11, 2024

 **Exam 3**

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051984>)


due by 10:50am

Tue Apr 16, 2024

 **RG 18 - Hanley et al. (2014)**
Reading Guide
(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052017>)

due by 9:30am

Thu Apr 18, 2024

 **RG 19 - Fisher et al. (2016)**
Reading Guide
(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052018>)


due by 9:30am

 **Quiz 9**

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052007>)

due by 10:50am

Tue Apr 23, 2024


 **RG 20 - Melanson & Fhamie**
(2023) Reading Guide
(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052020>)

due by 9:30am

Thu Apr 25, 2024

 **Quiz 10 (Final Quiz!)**
(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051998>)

due by 9:30am

 **RG 21 - FCT Current Topics**
Reading Guide
(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052021>)

due by 9:30am

Tue May 7, 2024



Exam 4 (Finals Week)

due by 12:30pm

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051987>)

Fri May 10, 2024



Lab at KFAC Hours (15 total)

due by 3:30pm

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051996>)



Can Exam 4 Increase Your Final Grade?

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051977>)



Current Grade

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051978>)



Current Percentage

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051979>)



Exam 1

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051981>)



Exam 2

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051983>)



Exam 3

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051985>)



Exam 4

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051986>)



Extra Credit Article 1

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051988>)



Extra Credit Article 2

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051989>)



Extra Credit Article 3

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051990>)



Extra Credit Article 4

(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051991>)



Extra Credit Article 5

<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051992>



Final Grade

<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051993>



KFAC Completion %

<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051994>



Pre-Test

<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2051976>



Research Day Attendance

<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052029>



Roll Call Attendance

<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052030>



Sona

<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98690/assignments/2052031>
